

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-31 and 33-49 remain pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 43, 44, and 46 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, Rejection

Claim 49 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Office Action states that claim 49 does not make clear if Applicant is claiming a method or a storage medium. To address this rejection, this Response amends claim 49 in a manner which makes it clear that Applicant is claiming a computer readable storage medium. For this reason, Applicant respectfully requests the Patent Office to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection

Claims 1-41, 45, and 47-49 were presumably rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,852,819 to Beller (referred to as "Beller" below). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

At the outset, page 3, line 5 of the Office Action indicates that claims 1-34 are rejected in view of Beller. However, the body of the rejection indicates that claims 35-

1 41, 45, and 47-49 are also rejected. In reply to this Response, the Patent Office is
2 requested to clarify the status of claims 35-42, 45, and 47-49, and, in particular, claim 42.

3 *Regarding Independent Claim 1*

4 Turning to the rejection, independent claim 1 recites in full:

5
6 1. A computer system user interface for statistical analysis comprising:

7 a data entry display screen configured to receive user input providing tabular data;

8 a configuration and control display screen configured to receive user input selecting a
9 particular statistical analysis to be performed on the tabular data;

10 statistical computation means responsive to user input received in the configuration
11 and control display screen to perform the particular statistical analysis using the tabular data
12 entered by user input in the data entry display screen to generate statistical results wherein the
13 statistical computation means is operable to retrieve and reformat the tabular data without user
14 interaction; and

15 a results page display screen responsive to the statistical computation means and to
16 user input received in the configuration and control display screen to format and display results
17 of the statistical analysis,

18 wherein the statistical analysis is configured to find at least one statistically significant
19 factor affecting a given response within the user input data based on the particular statistical
20 analysis selected through the configuration and control display screen.

21
22 Beller does not teach or suggest at least the element in claim 1 which recites, “a
23 configuration and control display screen configured to receive user input selecting a
24 particular statistical analysis to be performed on the tabular data,” in combination with
25 the remainder of this claim’s elements, when considered as a whole. The Office Action

1 identifies column 9, lines 3-20 and column 21, lines 27-67 of Beller as having relevance
2 to the above-identified element. These portions of Beller state:

3
4 An input device 5 is utilized in the apparatus 1, which may be a keyboard, mouse, joy stick,
5 optical scanner, electronic pen, modem, magnetic strip reader, LAN device, WAN device,
6 touch screen, camera, touch pad, biologic measurement device, microphone, infrared device,
7 ultrasound device or any other suitable means for entering data, information and user control
8 commands into a digital computer system.

9 The apparatus 1 is also comprised of a user presentation device 6 for presenting
10 information related to the operation of the present invention. In this respect, the operation of
11 the apparatus 1 may be facilitated by the display of on-screen menus, the sounding of audio
12 speakers, and any other suitable means which may allow a user, via the user input device 5,
13 to select apparatus operations or in other ways exert control over the present invention. The
14 presentation device 6 may also present requests for input information and/or data to the user
15 in text, graphics, audio, video, multimedia, and any other suitable formats. [See column 9,
16 lines 3-20.]

17 ...

18 Returning to FIG. 6, at step 603, which is an optional step, the CPU 2, via
19 programming code of the DPCM 128, appends and/or links some or all of the information
20 and/or data in the PDF 140 to the aforescribed TR 104, in an aforescribed IDF 100 to
21 which it is associated. This process is also indicated in FIG. 7 by the arrow pointing from step
22 705 to step 706. This routine adds processed information and/or data to the DRs 84 and PRs 88
23 in the IDF 100 to produce the ETR 144. The ETR 144 is analogous to a record in a table in a
24 database in which the record's fields are comprised of at least one DR 84, PR 88, and an
25 element of information and/or data processed by the PDF 140. The single ETR 144 may be

1 comprised of appended information and/or data elements in the single IDF 100 table or it may
2 be comprised of a plurality of "joined" tables (joined tables are electronically associated or
3 interconnected using a primary key field to relate them to one another, thereby enabling the
4 information and/or data elements of each table to be brought together so actions can be
5 performed on them as though they are a single table). Note that if step 603 is skipped, the
6 process immediately goes to step 605.

7 At step 604, which is also an optional step, the CPU 2, via programming code of the
8 DPCM 128 and formulas and/or functions of the DPFM 132, performs database calculations
9 (which may include sums, averages, minimums, maximums, counts, standard deviations,
10 variances, and other suitable calculations), groupings, filters, sorts, queries, and other suitable
11 database analysis functions and formulas utilizing two or more ETRs 144 and/or TRs 104
12 within the IDF 100 or a plurality of linked IDFs 100. If desired, a suitable database program
13 can be utilized to performs these database formulas and functions. The database formulas
14 and/or functions produce one or a plurality of ADUs 146, which are comprised of information
15 and/or data elements that can be used to determine percentile ranks, ranges, frequency
16 distributions, and other suitable statistical and mathematical data and information. Note that the
17 statistical and mathematical computations that generate ADUs 146 provide a means by which to
18 determine and utilize a plurality of "norms", which are values representing standards, models or
19 patterns regarded as typical for a specified set of conditions. [See column 21, lines 27-67.]
20

21 These passages do not disclose "a configuration and control display screen
22 configured to receive user input selecting a particular statistical analysis to be performed
23 on the tabular data." More specifically, these passages disclose, in part, that Beller
24 includes an input device 5 and a presentation device 6. Further, these passages disclose,
25 in part, that the CPU 2 performs "database calculations (which may include sums,

1 averages, minimums, maximums, counts, standard deviations, variances, and other
2 suitable calculations), groupings, filters, sorts, queries, and other suitable database
3 analysis functions and formulas.” However, there is no disclosure in these passages that
4 the input device 5 and the output device 6 are being specifically used to provide a
5 “configuration and control display screen” that is configured to “receive user input
6 selecting a particular statistical analysis to be performed on the tabular data.”

7 In reply to the Applicant’s arguments (in the previous Response), the outstanding
8 Office Action states:

9
10 Applicant argues that Beller does not teach ‘a configuration and control display screen
11 configured to receive user input selecting a particular statistical analysis to be performed on the
12 tabular data.’ However, Applicant’s arguments are not well taken. Beller teaches a user input
13 device for inputting user control commands into a digital computer system (see Beller, column
14 9, lines 3-10), this includes a presentation device, such as a display, to facilitate the operation of
15 the computer system (see Beller, column 9 lines 11-20). The user is permitted access to the
16 data, information and algorithms stored in the computer (see Beller, column 10 lines 1-14).
17 The user accessible data, information and algorithms stored on the computer may be used to
18 perform statistical analysis on stored tabular data (see Beller, column 21 lines 27-67), such as
19 data stored in Excel spreadsheet (see Beller, column 20 lines 22-42). Therefore, using an input
20 (i.e. keyboard, mouse, touch screen, etc.) (see Beller, column 9 lines 3-10) and a display (see
21 Beller, column 9 lines 11-20), a user may input data which commands the computer to perform
22 statistical analysis on tabular data (see Beller, column 21 lines 27-67). [See the Office Action,
23 page 11, first paragraph.]
24
25

1 In addition to the passages reproduced above, the Office Action's explanation
2 identifies column 10, lines 1-14 and column 20, lines 22-42 of Beller, which are
3 reproduced below for the convenience of the Patent Office:
4

5 The user interactive interface and delivery device 10 provides a means by which to
6 allow a remote user, as defined above, to access the apparatus 1. This may allow for a direct
7 transmission of data and information to be entered via any suitable data entry means located at
8 the user's location. It should be noted that adequate precautions are to be taken so as to prevent
9 a nonauthorized user from accessing the apparatus 1 and the data, information, or algorithms
10 stored therein. Any informational reports, if desired, may be electronically transmitted to the
11 user via the user interactive interface and delivery device 10 wherein the report or reports may
12 be output via the output means (not shown), which may be a printer or other suitable output
13 device, or wherein said report data may be stored in a user memory device. [See column 10,
14 lines 1-14]

15 . . .

16 The computational skill example above will again be used to illustrate the
17 data/information retrieval, analysis, and formation routines of the processing and reporting
18 method of the present invention. Upon completion of the DPM 124 at step 601 the CPU 2, via
19 programming code of the DPCM 128 and formulas and/or functions of the DPFM 132, retrieves
20 the DUs 80 from the student's IRFs 40 and returns them to the DRPF 136. In this example, the
21 DPCM 128, DPFM 132, DRPF 136 are all contained in a Microsoft Excel "workbook", which
22 is comprised of at least one of spreadsheets, macros, and Visual Basic modules that are saved as
23 a single file in storage device 8. The DUs 80 are retrieved using a Visual Basic copy command
24 from the DPCM 128 and lookup and reference formulas and/or functions of the DPFM 132.
25 Note that since Visual Basic commands and Excel functions and formulas are generally known

1 to persons skillful in Visual Basic and Excel spreadsheet programming, and since there may a
2 plurality of suitable ways in which the code, functions, and formulas may be written, the
3 specific alphanumeric content and structure will not be described in detail herein. [See column
4 20, lines 22-42.]

5
6 These passages do not disclose the above-identified claim element in question.
7 For instance, while Beller discloses that “adequate precautions are to be taken so as to
8 prevent a nonauthorized user from accessing the apparatus 1 and the data, information, or
9 algorithms stored therein,” the mere act of accessing an algorithm does not disclose a
10 specific “configuration and control display screen that is configured to receive user input
11 selecting a particular statistical analysis to be performed on the tabular data.” One can
12 access an algorithm through other mechanisms than the particular “configuration and
13 control display screen” recited in claim 1. Further, while Beller discloses various types
14 of calculations and the use of an Excel spreadsheet, Beller does not disclose that these
15 calculations are *selected* via a “configuration and control display screen.” In other words,
16 it is one thing to say that an apparatus can incorporate different analytical tools, and
17 another to say that a specific display *screen* is provided for *selecting* these tools;
18 moreover, the first observation does not imply the second, as, for example, an apparatus
19 can automatically invoke different analytical tools without requiring the user to select
20 these tools via a specific display screen.

21 In addition, to further highlight the differences between claim 1 and Beller, claim
22 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claim 32 (now
23 canceled), to thereby recite “wherein the statistical analysis is configured to find at least
24 one statistically significant factor affecting a given response within the user input data
25 based on the particular statistical analysis selected through the configuration and control

1 display screen.” Beller does not disclose this subject matter. The Office Action
2 identifies column 21, lines 48-67 of Beller (reproduced above) as having relevance to this
3 claim element. The cited passage of Beller describes various types of statistical and
4 mathematical computations, but none of these calculations can be fairly characterized as
5 finding “at least one statistically significant factor affecting a given response within the
6 user input data based on the particular statistical analysis selected through the
7 configuration and control display screen.”

8 For at least the above-stated illustrative and non-exhaustive reasons, Beller does
9 not disclose the subject matter recited in independent claim 1.

10 *Regarding Independent Claim 4*

11 Turning now to independent claim 4, this claim recites:

12
13 4. A method comprising:

14 receiving user input identifying desired analysis;

15 retrieving user data from a data store;

16 reformatting the user data in accordance with the desired analysis;

17 computing factors for the desired analysis;

18 formatting output from results of the computation for presentation to the user; and

19 presenting the output to the user in response to input from the user requesting output
20 presentation,

21 wherein the steps of retrieving, reformatting, computing and formatting are automated,
22 responsive to the step of receiving and otherwise substantially devoid of interaction with the
23 user for receiving input.
24
25

1 Beller does not teach or suggest at least the element in claim 4 which recites
2 “wherein the steps of retrieving, reformatting, computing and formatting are automated,
3 responsive to the step of receiving and otherwise substantially devoid of interaction with
4 the user for receiving input,” in combination with the remainder of this claim’s elements,
5 when considered as a whole. The Office Action identifies column 20, lines 22-29 of
6 Beller as having relevance to this element. The cited paragraph states in full:

7
8 The computational skill example above will again be used to illustrate the
9 data/information retrieval, analysis, and formation routines of the processing and reporting
10 method of the present invention. Upon completion of the DPM 124 at step 601 the CPU 2, via
11 programming code of the DPCM 128 and formulas and/or functions of the DPFM 132, retrieves
12 the DUs 80 from the student’s IRFs 40 and returns them to the DRPF 136. In this example, the
13 DPCM 128, DPFM 132, DRPF 136 are all contained in a Microsoft Excel “workbook”, which
14 is comprised of at least one of spreadsheets, macros, and Visual Basic modules that are saved as
15 a single file in storage device 8. The DUs 80 are retrieved using a Visual Basic copy command
16 from the DPCM 128 and lookup and reference formulas and/or functions of the DPFM 132.
17 Note that since Visual Basic commands and Excel functions and formulas are generally known
18 to persons skillful in Visual Basic and Excel spreadsheet programming, and since there may a
19 plurality of suitable ways in which the code, functions, and formulas may be written, the
20 specific alphanumeric content and structure will not be described in detail herein. [See column
21 20, lines 22-42.]

22
23 This excerpt lists certain operations performed by Beller’s apparatus, including
24 “retrieval, analysis, and formation routines.” First, these operations do not constitute the
25 list of operations recited claim 4, namely “retrieving, reformatting, computing and

1 formatting.” Second, the above-cited passage of Beller does not disclose that the recited
2 operations are “automated, responsive to the step of receiving and otherwise substantially
3 devoid of interaction with the user for receiving input.”

4 In reply to the Applicant’s arguments (in the previous Response), the outstanding
5 Office Action states:

6
7 Applicant further argues that Beller does not teach, ‘wherein the steps of retrieving,
8 reformatting, computing and formatting are automated, responsive to the step of receiving and
9 otherwise substantially devoid of interaction with the user for the receiving input.” However,
10 Applicant’s arguments are not well taken. As stated previously, a user enters commands to the
11 processor, and as a result of these commands the processor in turn performs the user selected
12 analysis on the data (see Beller, column 19 lines 52-64). The user’s function is merely to select
13 the commands and the retrieving, reformatting, computing and formatting are fully automated
14 within the processor. [See the Office Action, page 12, second full paragraph.]
15

16 The above-cited passage, column 19, lines 52-64 of Beller, is reproduced below
17 for the convenience of the Patent Office:
18

19 At step 602 the CPU 2, via programming code of the DPCM 128 and formulas and/or
20 functions of the DPFM 132, performs the specified formula and/or function routines on the
21 retrieved DUs 80 in the DRPF 136. These formulas and/or functions perform at least one of the
22 following routines on at least one element of the data or information: mathematical analyses,
23 logical analyses, format modification, arrangement into specified formations, and any other
24 suitable analysis and organization formulas and/or functions. If desired, a suitable spreadsheet
25 program can utilize a single spreadsheet or plurality of linked (interconnected) and/or

1 independent spreadsheets to perform these formula and/or function routines. [See column 19,
2 lines 52-64.]

3
4 This passage simply provides a laundry list of different types of functions. It does
5 not indicate that the series of operations of “retrieving, reformatting, computing and
6 formatting” are “automated, responsive to the step of receiving and otherwise
7 substantially devoid of interaction with the user for receiving input.” Further, the
8 terminal sentence of the Office Action’s explanation (namely, “The user’s function is
9 merely to select the commands and the retrieving, reformatting, computing and
10 formatting are fully automated within the processor”) is not supported by Beller and is an
11 inaccurate paraphrasing of the claim language in question. While certain operations are
12 performed by a processor in Beller, this does not *also* imply that these operations *omit*
13 user interaction. For example, to say that a certain program is performed with the aid of a
14 computer processor does not *also* inherently suggest that this program *omits* user
15 interaction. To anticipate the identified claim element, Beller must explicitly teach the
16 element or the element must be demonstrably inherent to Beller. In the present case, the
17 element in question is neither explicitly disclosed in Beller nor inherent to Beller.

18 Accordingly, for at least the above-stated illustrative and non-exhaustive reasons,
19 Beller does not disclose the subject matter recited in independent claim 4.

20 *Regarding Independent Claim 9*

21 Turning now to independent claim 9, this claim recites in full:

22
23 9. A method comprising:
24 presenting a spreadsheet to a user on a display wherein the spreadsheet comprises a
25 plurality of pre-defined pages;

1 receiving tabular data in a canonical form into a data page of the plurality of pre-
2 defined pages;

3 receiving configuration input into a user interaction page of the plurality of pre-defined
4 pages wherein the configuration input indicates a type of statistical analysis to be performed and
5 indication of elements involved in the statistical analysis;

6 automatically reformatting the tabular data in accord with the type of statistical
7 analysis without further user interaction;

8 automatically performing the indicated statistical analysis for all indicated elements
9 without further interaction wherein the statistical analysis identifies a significant factor in the
10 tabular data; and

11 generating results of the statistical analysis in a result page of the plurality of pre-
12 defined pages wherein the results identify the significant factor.

13
14 Beller does not teach or suggest at least the element in claim 9 which recites,
15 “receiving configuration input into a user interaction page of the plurality of pre-defined
16 pages wherein the configuration input indicates a type of statistical analysis to be
17 performed and indication of elements involved in the statistical analysis,” in combination
18 with the remainder of this claim’s elements, when considered as a whole. The Office
19 Action identifies column 16, lines 6-19 of Beller as having relevance to this element,
20 which is reproduced below for the convenience of the Patent Office:

21
22 Also note that error correction routines may be employed by which the CPU 2, via
23 programming code of the DCCM 24, is instructed to replace specific information and/or data
24 that has been previously stored in the IRF 40 or IDF 100 with new information and/or data
25 entered into the input device 5.

Returning to FIG. 3, the aforescribed IDF 100 is at block 302F. The IDF 100 comprises:

a “table record” (TR) 104 at block 302G, which is comprised of at least one of the DUs 80 of a single entity that has been stored in the IDF 100 as a single record;

an “extended table record” (ETR) 144 at block 302H (described at a later point below);

This passage discloses, in part, that Beller’s system employs error correction routines. But there is not even a hint in this passage pertaining to the above-described subject matter of claim 9. That is, error correction routines do not even remotely imply the use of a user interaction page for receiving configuration input.

Moreover, the element of claim 9 identified above specifically recites that “configuration input indicates a type of statistical analysis to be performed *and indication of elements involved in the statistical analysis*” (emphasis added). Beller nowhere discloses receiving configuration input that indicates elements involved in statistical analysis. Certainly, the passage cited in the Office Action does not disclose or suggest this claimed subject matter.

In reply to the Applicant’s arguments (in the previous Response), the outstanding Office Action states:

Applicant further argues that Beller does not teach that the ‘configuration input indicates a type of statistical analysis to be performed and indication of elements involved in the statistical analysis.’ However, Applicant’s arguments are not well taken. Beller teaches that,

1 using a spreadsheet, formulas may be generated which specify specific cells (i.e. elements) for
2 use in calculation (i.e. statistical analysis) (see Beller, column 20 line 50 – column 21 line 26).
3 [See the Office Action, the paragraph which bridges pages 12 and 13.]
4

5 To facilitate the Patent Office's review, the cited portion of Beller is reproduced
6 in full below:
7

8 The first column of the array contains the QIIDs 44 of each DU 80, each QIID 44 in a
9 subsequent, adjacent row. Note that each QIID 44, DU 80, and Excel formula and/or function
10 in the spreadsheet are located at an intersection between a row and column, in what is known in
11 spreadsheet terminology as a "cell" The cells in the second (adjacent) column contain the DRs
12 84 from the initial use of the DCM 20, each DR 84 in a cell adjacent to its associated QIID 44.
13 In the third column (adjacent to the initial DRs 84) are the DRs 84 obtained via the final
14 (second) time the DCM 20 was used. The DUs 80 in the DRPF 136 are processed at step 602,
15 via programming code of the DPCM 128 and formulas and/or functions of the DPFM 132,
16 thereby generating the PDF 140, which is also an Excel spreadsheet. Following is a detailed
17 description of this processing routine as it applies to the present example.

18 A fourth, fifth, and sixth column of cells have been previously entered into the DRPF
19 136 spreadsheet as a template for arranging and processing the DUs 80 retrieved above. The
20 fourth column of cells, which are adjacent to the third, contain the correct answer for each DU
21 80 in numeric form. Cells in the fifth column, which are adjacent to the fourth, contain an
22 Excel formula that instructs the CPU 2 to compare each initial DR 84 to its corresponding
23 correct answer and, if they are equal, to return the value of "1" in that cell, or else to return a
24 zero. Cells in a sixth column, adjacent to the fifth, contain Excel functions that instruct the
25 CPU 2 to compare each final DR 84 to its corresponding correct answer and, if they are equal,

1 to display the value of "1" in that cell, or else to display a zero. Cells at the bottom of fifth and
2 sixth columns are comprised of Excel formulas that instruct the CPU 2 to compute and return
3 the sum total of each respective column, which represent the total number of correct initial and
4 final DRs 84, respectively. A cell to the immediate right of the cell with the final correct sum
5 total contains an Excel formula that instructs the CPU 2 to subtract the initial sum from the final
6 sum to return an "actual change score" value. A positive value in the change score cell
7 indicates an improvement in computational skill over the time period between the initial and
8 final assessments and a negative value indicates worsening of the skill. Next, the values in the
9 DRPF 136 are saved as an Excel spreadsheet PDF 140 via a Visual Basic driven Excel "copy-
10 paste special-values" function. Further description of this example will be postponed until it is
11 continued below. [See column 20, line 50 to column 21, line 26.]
12

13 Again, this analysis does not address what is specifically being recited. Beller
14 presumably discloses a conventional use of spreadsheet technology in which the values
15 provided in certain cells can be computed by formulae that are associated with the cells.
16 This does not constitute a "user interaction page" which receives "configuration input,"
17 wherein the "configuration input indicates a *type of statistical analysis to be performed.*"
18 That is, making use of a cell that is associated with a particular function does not
19 constitute receiving input which indicates a type of statistical analysis to be performed.
20 To be yet more specific, making use of a cell which is associated with a function X, does
21 not constitute receiving a configuration input via a user interaction page which selects
22 among statistical analyses X, Y, and Z, etc.

23 Further still, Beller does not teach or suggest the elements in claim 9 which recite,
24 "automatically performing the indicated statistical analysis for all indicated elements
25 without further interaction wherein the statistical analysis identifies a significant factor in

1 the tabular data,” and “generating results of the statistical analysis in a result page of the
2 plurality of pre-defined pages wherein the results identify the significant factor,” in
3 combination with the remainder of this claim’s elements, when considered as a whole.
4 The Office Action cites column 19, lines 52-64 and column 20, lines 22-42 of Beller
5 (reproduced above) as having relevance to the above-identified features. These passages
6 show that Beller’s invention can perform various analyses, but neither of these passages
7 discloses or suggests processing which “identifies a significant factor in the tabular data,”
8 as recited in claim 9.

9 Accordingly, for at least the above-stated illustrative and non-exhaustive reasons,
10 Beller does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in independent claim 9.

11 *Regarding Independent Claim 35*

12 Turning now to independent claim 35, this claim recites:

13
14 35. (Previously presented) A method comprising:
15 receiving data through a data entry display mechanism;
16 receiving configuration input through a configuration and control display mechanism,
17 wherein the configuration input indicates:
18 a type of statistical analysis to be performed; and
19 an indication of factor-type X elements and at least one response-type Y
20 element associated with the received data;
21 performing the indicated statistical analysis for all indicated elements,
22 wherein the statistical analysis identifies a significant factor among the indicated factor-type X
23 elements with respect to said at least one identified response-type Y element; and
24 generating results of the statistical analysis, wherein the results identify the significant
25 factor.

1 Beller does not teach or suggest at least the element in claim 35 which recites
2 “receiving configuration input through a configuration and control display mechanism,”
3 wherein the configuration input indicates “a type of statistical analysis to be performed,”
4 and “an indication of factor-type X elements and at least one response-type Y element
5 associated with the received data,” in combination with the remainder of this claim’s
6 elements, when considered as a whole. Beller also does not disclose “performing the
7 indicated statistical analysis for all indicated elements, wherein the statistical analysis
8 identifies a significant factor among the indicated factor-type X elements with respect to
9 said at least one identified response-type Y element,” in combination with the remainder
10 of this claim’s elements, when considered as a whole. The Office Action identifies the
11 following portions of Beller as having relevance to the above-identified elements of claim
12 35: column 9, lines 3-20; column 19, lines 52-64; column 21, lines 27-67; column 21,
13 lines 48-58; and column 22, lines 10-32.

14 The passages from columns 9, 19 and 21 were reproduced above. The passage
15 from column 22 is reproduced as follows for the convenience of the Patent Office:

16
17 The IDF 100 referred to in steps 603 and 604 is also indicated in FIG. 7 at step 706.

18 An additional optional step that may follow step 604, which is not shown in FIG. 6, is instead
19 indicated in FIG. 7 as step 707. Step 707 indicates the utilization of an aforescribed online
20 analytic processor (OLAP), aforescribed artificial intelligence (AI) program, and any suitable
21 statistics program (SP) such as SPSS (by SPSS, Inc.) and EQS (by Multivariate Software, Inc.).

22 These data and information analysis routines access IDF 100 data, analyze them and, as
23 indicated by the arrow pointing from step 707 to step 709, return the results of their analyses to
24 one or a plurality of DIFs 154 as described below. Note that even though only OLAPs, AI
25 programs, and statistics programs are indicated in FIG. 7 at step 707, any current or future

1 technology that accesses data from databases, analyzes and/or organizes them, and produces
2 information suitable for inclusion in the DIF 154 may be utilized at this step in the present
3 invention. Note also that these data and information analysis routines can also be utilized to
4 generate “factor profiles” which indicate correlated groupings of data via factor analysis and
5 similar statistical procedures and can be used to reduce complex data into a smaller number of
6 meaningful concepts. [See column 22, lines 10-32.]

7
8 The passage from column 22 *contains Beller’s only mention of factor analysis in*
9 *the entire document.* And this mention of factor analysis is merely a *passing reference*,
10 providing no enabling details regarding how Beller’s apparatus can be used to generate
11 “factor profiles.” Accordingly, Beller does not describe the specific subject matter of
12 claim 35, where specific kinds of configuration input are received for use identifying a
13 “significant factor among the indicated factor-type X elements with respect to said at
14 least one identified response-type Y element.” Further, Beller’s use of a spreadsheet
15 associated with various functions does not constitute the specific operations described
16 above, for reasons similar to those set forth above for claim 9.

17 Accordingly, for at least the above-stated illustrative and non-exhaustive reasons,
18 Beller does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in independent claim 35.

19 *Remaining Claims*

20 The remaining rejected independent claims – i.e., claims 18, 23, and 49 – recite
21 related subject matter to claims 4, 9, and 35, respectively. Accordingly, the Applicant
22 submits that these claims are not disclosed or suggested by Beller for reasons similar to
23 those presented above.

24 The dependent claims are not anticipated by Beller at least by virtue of these
25 claims’ dependency on their respective independent claims. Moreover, these claims

1 recite additional subject matter which is not disclosed or suggested by Beller. Consider,
2 for example, dependent claim 10, which is reproduced as follows:

3
4 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the step of receiving configuration information
5 comprises:

6 receiving user input identifying portions of the tabular data representing elements for
7 the statistical analysis and user input identifying portions of the tabular data representing a
8 response for the statistical analysis.

9
10 The Office Action identifies the above-reproduced passage of column 19, lines
11 52-64 of Beller as having relevance to claim 10. This passage mentions, in part, the use
12 of spreadsheets, but the mere mention of spreadsheets does not account for the specific
13 operations described in claim 10 where input is received that identifies “elements for the
14 statistical analysis” and “portions of the tabular data representing a response for the
15 statistical analysis.”

16 17 **Conclusion**

18 As a general observation, the Office Action appears to be combining different
19 passages from the Beller document to draw conclusions that are not fairly supported by
20 the Beller document itself. Further, the Office Action is, at times, inappropriately
21 paraphrasing both the Beller reference and the language of the claims. To name one
22 example, the Office Action notes that Beller discloses a user interactive interface and that
23 Beller accommodates a plurality of formulae. But these observations do not support the
24 Office Action’s conclusion that Beller discloses a display screen that is specifically
25 configured to *select* particular statistical analysis. 35 U.S.C. § 102 *requires* that every

1 single aspect of the claim language be exactly met by a cited reference. (Note MPEP §
2 2131, "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is
3 found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference"). As noted
4 above, Beller fails to disclose all of the elements in any of the claims. Accordingly,
5 Beller fails to anticipate any of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

6 For the above-identified reasons, the Applicant submits that the 35 U.S.C.
7 § 102(b) rejection is misplaced, and therefore respectfully requests that it be withdrawn.
8

9 In conclusion, the arguments presented above are not exhaustive; Applicant
10 reserves the right to present additional arguments to fortify its position. Further,
11 Applicant reserves the right to challenge the alleged prior art status of one or more
12 documents cited in the Final Office Action.

13 All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it
14 is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and
15 such allowance is respectfully solicited.
16
17

18 Respectfully Submitted,

19 Dated: 11-29-2006

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